



Dear Mr Gurney

It is many years now since I have been in Gloucester and a long time since we have exchanged letters. Had I been in Gloucester I should have come to call upon you, ~~for I see~~ and indeed I ^{particularly wish at the present time that} ~~would~~ we could have a talk now. The reason ~~I am writing~~ is that I am a good deal distressed at the completely false statements that have been put into circulation concerning my relations to the affairs, to your brother Dr Gurney and originating I am afraid with your sister Winifred. She seems to be under the impression that I am withholding large sums of money due to her ^{and it follows to you and your sister Dorothy also} ~~representing fees for~~ (and to you?) representing fees for performing rights and royalties on the sales of his published works.

As you discussed ~~and decided~~ all the arrangements with Dr Vaughan Williams, Mr Winterbotham, and me at the time ^{just after} of your brother's death ~~and the matter~~ you know that I ~~and obtained~~ your Mother consented and as your Mother gave her consent ^{to these arrangements} you know that I am the Administrator appointed by the Court to deal with ^{your} brother Dr's affairs.

I would only remind your sister Winifred that not once, so far as I know, did she ^{or Dorothy} visit Dr during the fifteen years he was in the City of London Mental Hospital nor did she show the slightest interest in his

work ^{then}) and it would seem that the interest has only awoken
because she has heard that I have been receiving cer-
ties and royalties in connection with the performance of
works.

(Then as in typescript down to "next of kin":

+ I am not, absolutely however, fully aware who my
your Mother's next of - kin. Beyond, you, your sister
Winifred, and your sister Dorothy (Mrs Hayward)
~~she has any other children as there are any others~~
and her children are there any others?

shall I mention that another^a volume of 10 songs is
being published by the Oxford University Press.

In addition ~~we~~ I have already sanctioned
the publication of a third volume of my
songs which the Oxford University Press are
publishing at their own expense and on the sale
of which they will pay a small royalty.

~~If you approve~~ Unless you disapprove I shall
be sending a copy of this letter to your sister Winifred
and it would greatly help if you would talk matters
over with your sister in the light of the information I
I have given you and let me know what you wish
are. I cannot think that your sister would seriously prefer
to sacrifice the perpetuation of your brother's works for the

sale of a few pounds ready cash

7. Porchester Terrace
London. W. 2
March 20, 1951



Dear Mr Gurney

It is many years now since I have been in Gloucester and a long time since we have exchanged letters. Had I been in Gloucester I should have come to call upon you, and indeed I particularly wish at the present time that we could have a talk. The reason is that I am a good deal distressed at the completely false statements that have been put into circulation concerning my relations to the affairs of your brother Ivor Gurney and originating, I am afraid, with your sister Winifred. She seems to be under the impression that I am withholding large sums of money due to her - and it follows to you and your sister Dorothy also - representing fees for performing rights and royalties on the sales of his published works.

As you discussed all the arrangements with Dr Vaughan Williams, Mr Winterbotham, and me at the time just after your brother's death, and as your Mother gave her consent to the arrangements then made, you know that I am the Administrator appointed by the Court to deal with your brother Ivor's affairs and I have done nothing with them except to nurse and strengthen his position without remuneration of any kind and at personal financial loss. I would only remind your sister Winifred that not once, so far as I know, did she or Dorothy visit Ivor during the fifteen years he was in the City of London Mental Hospital nor did she show the slightest interest in his work then, and it would seem that the interest has only awakened because she has heard that I have been receiving certain fees and royalties in connection with the performance and sales of his works.

In view of the statements I wish to put on record that strict account has been kept of all receipts and Income Tax has been paid on them, but I have not repaid myself some £143. 19. 8. I advanced from January 1932 to December 1937 in respect of the balance of Hospital accounts and your brother's living expenses. (I also gave money towards his funeral expenses.) My one concern has been to nurse and foster the demand for further performances of your brother's work which I and a few others regard as the work of a genius, and to secure the

the publication of more of his manuscripts. There is a separate banking account and I had been intending and hoping when I had accumulated sufficient balance to be able to publish a further volume of his poems, and it would be a disappointment, and a matter of grief to me if I am prevented from doing so. Had your Mother lived the copyright of such a publication would have been transferred to her and a scheme put on foot for perpetuating your brother's works. Owing her death the copyright in the works now belongs to your Mother's next-of-kin. I am not, however, fully aware who were your Mother's next-of-kin. Beyond you, your sister Winifred, and your sister Dorothy are there any others? If so I should like to have full particulars.

If, on full consideration the next-of kin are willing that I should proceed with the plan I have in mind I am willing to let the payment of my own stand over for a further period, otherwise it may be some years before we have sufficient accumulations in hand to meet the expenses of further publication. In addition I have already sanctioned the publication of a third volume of Ivor's songs - there are ten songs in the volume - which the Oxford University Press are publishing at their own expense and on which they will pay their present standard royalty for songs.

Unless you disapprove I shall be sending a copy of this letter to your sister Winifred and it would greatly help if you would talk matters over with her in the light of the information I have given you, and would let me know what your wishes are. I cannot think that your sister would seriously prefer to sacrifice the perpetuation of your brother's works for the sake of a few pounds ready cash. At any time when you want to see the accounts and Bank statements I shall be so glad to show them to you.

I hope you and Mrs Gurney are well. With kind regards

Yours sincerely

Marion M. Scott

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